

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-05

IGA-01 AID-05 NIC-01 /088 W  
----- 090300

P R 171832Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2127

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MARR, PO

SUBJECT: US SHIPS AND MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT

REF: (A) FBIS LONDON 140517Z MAR 75

(B) LISBON 1470

1. DURING AND FOLLOWING MARCH 11 ABORTIVE COUP THERE WERE MANY  
RUMORS AROUND LISBON REGARDING US SHIP AND AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS  
IN OR NEAR PORTUGUESE WATERS AND TERRITORY. ONE STORY EVEN  
HELD THAT US AIRCRAFT OVERFLEW LISBON DURING THE EVENING OF  
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MARCH 11.

2. BRIG. CARVALHO OF COPCON STATED ON MARCH 14 (REF A) THAT ONLY US SHIP MOVEMENTS WERE THE USS SARATOGA NEAR THE AZORES AND THE USS INDEPENDENCE SAILING SOUTH BY PORTUGAL ON THE WAY TO THE MEDITERRANEAN. THE ONLY AIRCRAFT INCURSIONS WERE ROUTINE TRAINING FLIGHTS FROM THE SARATOGA.

3. NEVERTHELESS, PAMPHLETS FROM FAR-LEFT PRP-BR AND LUAR APPEARED IN LISBON OVER THE MARCH 15 WEEKEND ALLEGING THAT US SHIPS WERE ABOUT TO LAUNCH AN INVASION OF PORTUGAL AT SINES. THE MRPP WAS CONDEMNED BY THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT ON MARCH 15 FOR SPREADING THE SAME RUMOR (REF B).

4. IN MARCH 15 ISSUE OF RESPECTED WEEKLY EXPRESSO AN ACCOUNT OF COUP ALLEGED THAT A NATO SQUADRON WAS "STRANGELY CLOSE TO THE PORTUGUESE COAST" ON NIGHT OF MARCH 13.

5. COMMENT: AS FARFETCHED AS THESE RUMORS MAY BE, THEY ARE OFTEN GIVEN CREDENCE BY THE PUBLIC. THE DAO HAS CONFIRMED THAT SOME JUNIOR OFFICERS IN ARMED FORCES BELIEVED THE INITIAL REPORTS OF THREATENING MOVES BY US SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT.  
CARLUCCI

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, SHIP MOVEMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LISBON01487  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 FBIS LONDON 140517Z, 75 MAR 75  
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**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US SHIPS AND MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT  
**TAGS:** PINT, MARR, PO, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006